



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/718,349	11/21/2003	Feng Li		9881

Feng Li
28 Mitchell Road
Parsippany, NJ 07054

7590

01/26/2007

EXAMINER

JUNKER, JONATHAN T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3635

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/26/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/718,349

Applicant(s)

LI, FENG

Examiner

Jonathan T. Junker

Art Unit

3635

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Supplied Figure 1</u> . |

DETAILED ACTION

This is the first action on the merits; Claims 1-5 are pending and are examined below.

Specification

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the abstract contains improper idiomatic English. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, requires the specification to be written in "full, clear, concise, and exact terms." The specification is replete with terms which are not clear, concise and exact. The specification should be revised carefully in order to comply with 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Examples of some unclear, inexact or verbose terms used in the specification are:

Paragraph 1, line 1, the term "reducing" is used instead of the tem "reduction".

Paragraph 1, line 2, the terms "earthquake, vibration, or collision" are used instead of the terms "earthquakes, vibration, or collisions".

A substitute specification in proper idiomatic English and in compliance with 37 CFR 1.52(a) and (b) is required. The substitute specification filed must be accompanied by a statement that it contains no new matter.

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: On the second line of the claim the phrase "support a" should be replaced with "supports an" Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: On the fourth line of the claim, the phrase; "instrument frame for tightly fits of said instrument" is not well understood by the examiner, clarification is required.

Claims 4 and 5 are objected to because of the following informalities: The claims have improper punctuation. Claims are to be one continuous sentence; the addition of periods mid-claim renders the claims improper. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 5 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claims 2 and 3. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claim 5 not been further treated on the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Art Unit: 3635

Claims 1-5 recite the limitation "said lower supporting member" found in claim 1, on the tenth line of the claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claims 3 and 5 recite the limitation "horizontally damper assembly" found in claim 3, on the first line of the claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Further more, the term "horizontally" should be replaced with the term "horizontal".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lai, US Patent 5,558,191.

Regarding claim 1, Lai discloses a shock absorbing support system comprising: lower supporting members (A Supplied Figure 1, also disclosed that the apparatus will be attached to a primary structure which is not shown column 8 lines 4-5) that support the shock absorbing system (430 and 432 fig 18) that support a instrument (428 fig 18);

Art Unit: 3635

upper framing members for damping vibrations transmitted to said instrument frame (B Supplied Figure); said upper members having first connection assembly means for being vertically supported to bottom frame of said instrument (fig 18) and second connection assembly means for being horizontally connected to the upper frame of said instrument in at least two directions (432 and 430 fig 18); lower supporting members comprising members that connect said shock absorbing system to a structure that has dynamic vibration source (column 8 lines 4-5); said instrument frame comprising rigid connection points to said instrument with or without frame members that surrounding said instrument (445 fig 18). Lai does not disclose that the lower supporting members are made of steel or aluminum, however, Lai discloses that the housing members can be made of metal or any other suitable material, therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to form the supporting members out of steel or aluminum because they are common and well know building materials for use in such applications.

Regarding claim 2, Lai discloses the first connection assembly of claim 1, further including: Spring assembly with damper assembly (430 and 432 fig 18) vertically standing side by side connecting bottom of said instrument frame and said lower supporting members.

Art Unit: 3635

Regarding claim 3, Lai discloses a second connection assembly of claim 1 wherein horizontally damper assembly includes means for being pivotally connected (444 and 445 fig 18) to said instrument frame and said upper framing members.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lai, US Patent 5,558,191 in view of Oliver US Patent 5,409,192.

Regarding claim 4, Lai discloses The spring assembly of claim 2 however does not disclose the spring having a bolt running through the middle of the spring assembly, however, Oliver discloses a coil spring with said coil spring (92 fig 3) being restrained with an inner steel rod (82 fig 3) inside said coil spring, one end of said steel rod is rigid connected to said lower supporting members (60 fig 3) and one end has thread for nut, said steel rod with said thread goes through a hole in a steel plate (fig 3), the size of said hole in said steel plate is large enough to let said steel rod free move horizontally (fig 3), but smaller than the size of said nut, said nut would lock said steel rod through said thread of said steel rod above said steel plate within certain distance, therefore, said steel rod can freely move vertically and horizontally within the dynamic move limits (fig 3). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to compress a spring with a bolt and nut to apply a constant compressive force or preload to the spring so as to allow the spring to be in constant contact with the two surface it is to keep separated.

Art Unit: 3635

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jonathan T. Junker whose telephone number is (571)272-4020. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl Friedman can be reached on (571) 272-6842. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


JTJ
1/18/2007

SUPERVISOR
1/22/07

FIG.18